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IN THE  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Yaochu Jin, *et al.*  
SERIAL NO.: 10/007,734  
FILING DATE: November 9, 2001  
TITLE: Approximate Fitness Functions  
EXAMINER: George B. Davis  
GROUP ART UNIT: 2121  
ATTY. DKT. NO.: 23077-06445

RECEIVED

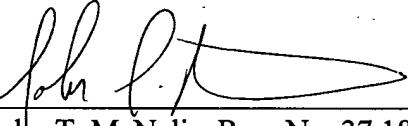
SEP 22 2004

Technology Center 2100

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below:

Dated: September 16, 2004

By:   
John T. McNelis, Reg. No. 37,186

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT "A"**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.111**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 17, 2004, Applicants submit the following  
Amendment and Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required beyond those, which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this Amendment. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR §1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account 19-2555.

Kindly enter the following amendment: